

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 9, 2010

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. President:

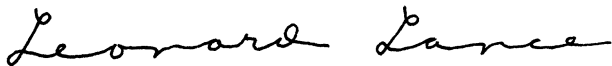
We are writing to express our strong opposition to recent statements made by White House senior economic adviser Paul Volcker suggesting the United States should consider raising taxes to help bring deficits under control. Specifically, Mr. Volcker said the U.S. should consider imposing a "value-added tax" similar to those charged in Europe.

We are all concerned about ways to reduce the size of the federal deficit and strongly support returning our nation to a path of fiscal responsibility. However, raising taxes will only result in additional hardship for America's families and workers.

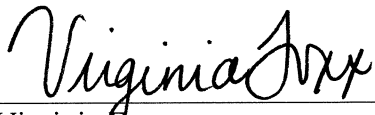
Mr. Volcker's comments come on the heels of recent tax increases included in the new health care law as well as expected action on your budget which would eliminate many of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts and raise taxes on millions of Americans. These tax increases come at a time when federal spending has increased to nearly one-quarter of our economy. This tax-and-spend economic policy is the wrong medicine for our ailing economy and will do little to get our deficits under control over the long-term.

We respectfully call on you to publicly reject a European-style value-added tax and pledge to work with Congress to reduce federal spending and put our Nation on a glide path toward real debt reduction without increasing taxes.

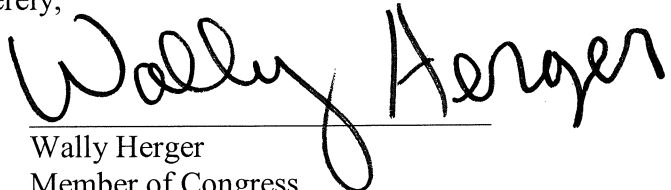
Sincerely,



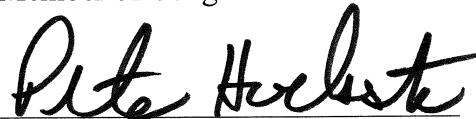
Leonard Lance
Member of Congress



Virginia Foxx
Member of Congress



Wally Herger
Member of Congress



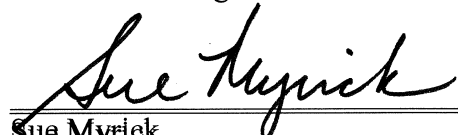
Peter Hoekstra
Member of Congress



Michele Bachmann
Member of Congress



Pete Sessions
Member of Congress



Sue Myrick
Member of Congress



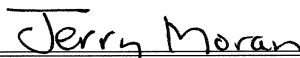
Peter King
Member of Congress



Bob Goodlatte
Member of Congress



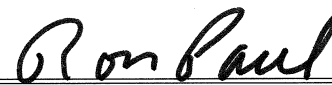
Mark Souder
Member of Congress



Jerry Moran
Member of Congress



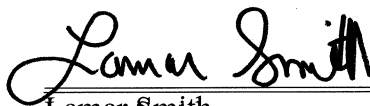
Scott Garrett
Member of Congress



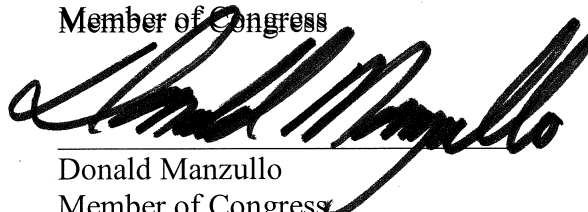
Ron Paul
Member of Congress



Lynn Jenkins
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith
Member of Congress



Donald Manzullo
Member of Congress